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Many people mistake envy for political econ-. It is easy for a man of moderate income to see that a millionaire ought to be disciplined.

Act Before It Is Too Late

THE protection of a people at peace is as important as the protection of a people at

The British nation is at war and its Govarnment is using all its powers to conserve the supplies needed for the men in the field and to maintain the lives of the people at home. It has forbidden the export of wool and rubber save under conditions which it lays down. It would forbid the export of foodstuffs if it raised them in large quanti-

But while the British are going into the markets of the world to buy what they need and are offering prices large enough to drain the richest granaries of their stock, the Government in Washington is inert.

The foreign demand for wheat is pushing the price so high that bread is likely soon to become a luxury. All records for recent years were broken on the Chicago markets yesterday. The price of flour has already risen almost to famine figures here at home, where we have the most bountiful harvest since white men first stepped on the continent. And the Government in Washington hesitates to act.

But it must act. It must exercise its sovereign powers and put an embargo on the shipment of wheat until the price comes down to a reasonable figure. And when the price is down it must limit exports to such an amount as we can spare without injury to the poorest laboring man.

We are at peace, and hunger confronts the working men; we are at peace, and the children will soon be begging for bread; we are at peace, and the aged will be thankful for a crust-unless the Government puts up the bars and stops the flow of the very bread of life to other shores to feed other peoples.

If we were at war it would not hesitate to keep our food supplies at home. If it does not act soon it will be too late.

Let it save our food supply while there Is atill time.

The Greatness of the Delaware.

ORE than one-third of the tonnage of M ships built in the United States in 1914 was constructed at the shipyards on the Delaware River. The short stretch of the stream from this city to Wilmington is one of the greatest ship building centres in the The construction companies here are capable of turning out vessels which will bear comparison with the best produced elsewhere. These shipyards are a great mational asset, the value of which in time of war or in time of peace cannot be over-

But Philadelphia has not done its full duty when it has swelled with pride at the contemplation of its shipbuilding supremacy, The Delaware must become not only the centre of the greatest shippards in the United States, but the greatest shipping centre of the world. This is a maritime nation. It has reached that stage in its development when it must command the facilities for ocean transportation through the ownership by its merchants of great freight and passenger ships. There is no other place so admirably situated for the command of the raw materials of ships as the port of Philadelphia and the Delaware River. We are at the door of the great steel wills and at the heart of a dense industrial pepulation, and with the intelligent and sympathetic co-operation of the State and National governments we can do much in the next few years to assist in realizing that vision of a magnificent merchant marine which has appeared to men of imagination and foresight.

A Yardstick for Politicians

The statesman, you know, is the man who can take an impersonal view of politics.— Weodrow Wilson to Samuel G. Biythe. FIVOM REED'S remark that only dead politiciana are statesmen is only an epigram;

but this obiter dictum of the President, uttered in the course of a long conversation with a skillful interviewer, is a political and moral philosophy, a system of ethics and a religion, all rolled in one. Although, as Goethe said, the ego may be the centre of every human circle and the difference in men may be measured by the difference in the length of the radius which reaches to the circumfersace, there are men so big that the casual explorer starting from the rim gets lost in admiration before he reaches the centre.

But to descend from the general to the par-Scular, one or two men in the Cabinet are doubtless wondering whether the President was making any personal allusions when he frarpad his definition.

The Disgusting Mexican Muddle

771LLA la preparing to destroy Carransa and Carranna is getting ready to wipe ant Villa and Washington is waiting until another convention selects another dummy to get on President in the hope that it can find excuse for undoing the previous thin fees in its Mexican policy. This seems to be the present situation so far as it can he rathered from the conflicting reports. The President's references to Mexico in Indianapolis aposch, which the New ort Herald has characterized as the severer criticism of the polloy of the Administien that has been uttered, indicate that a Measure are new to be permitted to kill on grather to their heart's contact without width the amountable of Washington | then despity the benefity of State,

They are fighting for "freedom" now, and they must be permitted to struggle along till they find some solution and we must keep our hands off. This extreme of indifference is as unwise and as unstatermanlike as the other extreme of deciding for the Mexicans what they ought to do for themselves.

Meanwhile, Americans and other foreigners across the border must submit to all sorts of outrages, while Secretary Bryan refuses to raise his hand to protest. It must be said, to the credit of the Administration, that it has sent a representative to the Southwest to ask the Mexicans if they will please be so kind as to refrain from shooting Americans on American soil, and at the same time to tell the Americans to be careful to keep out of range of the builets.

If You Want to Vote in March You Are for It, If Not, You Are Against It

GATHERING or marching together, tens boned citizens last night branded the Taylor transit plans with their approval and shoved the whole proposition up to Councils in so vigorous a manner that trifling with the routine of its passage need not be anticipated, and, if attempted, would translate itself into a deluge sweeping pigmy-minded and pigmy-acting men into the discard.

The time has passed to argue seriously whether or not Philadelphia shall have rapid transit. Men do not ask if it is wise to have water to drink, food to eat, clothes to wear. There are some things the necessity of which is axiomatic, and to the tens of hundreds of thousands in our metropolitan district high speed transit is one of them.

Of importance almost equal to the campaign of education which has been waged is the manner of its conduct. Never before, we surmise, has a city met a public service corporation with a hand so open and a mind so fair. A tidal wave of public hostility might have been stirred up against the existing company. Instead, it has in no way been attacked. Full credit has been given it for its obvious and wholly commendable efforts to give full benefit with the facilities at hand. So, too, dollar for dollar, the city proposes to protect the company's investment, permitting it to stabilize its franchises and establishment and share to the full in the prosperity of the city.

The cordiality of relations between municipalities and public service corporations in America will be lost and decades of progress swept aside if the generosity of Philadelphia in the present instance is ignored and the company, of its own accord or through its subsidiaries, attempts to sow and harvest in the political field. And so unanimous is public feeling in favor of rapid transit, that opposition in Councils would be odorous and the taint of suspicion fasten on each and every obstructionist. More, to delay is to obstruct. A June election if you are against transit; a March election if you are for it.

Boies Penrose is for the program, definitely and without equivocation. So he has written. The whole public is for it. Who, then, can hold it up? Unless discipline in the Organization is lost, what Boles Penrose says is its law. All, all are on the band wagon except a few stockholders of the Union Traction Company who happen to be receiving three times a generous interest on the funds they have invested. But even if these few stockholders hold up their own company they cannot hold up Philadelphia. That was the message of the demonstration last night-a message to Councils and a message to the Union Traction Company, a command to the one and a stern warning to the other.

Let dirt instead of scandal fly this summer. for unless shovels are busy with the one investigation will be busy with the other. The transit plans cannot honestly be defeated in Councils nor can the election honestly be postponed until June.

Auguries of Sanity.

THE floods in the Delaware and Schuylkill valleys have reached and passed highwater mark. But more remarkable than the height of the rushing waters is the absence of a flood of exaggeration about the loss of life and property. Previous freshets have been accompanied by heartrending tales of suffering, only to be denied as soon as the crest of the wave had passed. There is no longer a cry of "Wolf! Wolf!" when there is no wolf.

We were surfelted with stories of atrocities in the first weeks of the war, but it has been difficult, if not impossible, to verify one-tenth of the horrors. And now the discriminating reader discounts all outrage varns about 90 per cent. and suspends judgment as to the rest. We are growing a little saner and are using our judgment in weighing the probabilities of evil before swallowing every superlative of horror that gains currency at the hands of sensation mongers. This is a sign of increasing public intelligence as well as of a better mental balance.

Governor Blease has, and South Carolina

All reports from Alabama indicate the ap-

proach of a great drouth. Those who remembered the old saying about architects and fortunes knew that Paul Cret was too good an architect to ap-

prove any plan which provided for his untimely taking off in Europe. The New York bess who sold a nomination for a judgeship and the man who bought the nomination are now in Sing Sing prison thinking about the men whom they know

have done the same thing without getting

caught.

If a merchant ship, drawing 29 feet, can load at the Philadelphia wharves, what is to prevent a Government collier of the same draft from taking on Pennsylvania coal at the same place? Is it politics, cowardice or

Will Benster Borsh, who says that the President is a boss after the type of Murphy, of Tammany Hall, please read Mr. Bryan's letter on the importance of finding places for desarving Bemocrats in San Domingo and

WASHINGTON A SPOILED AND SELFISH VILLAGE

Its Mental Attitude Responsible for Freak Legislation-Put the Capitol Fin a Real City and It Would Hum.

By EDWARD W. TOWNSEND

F THE national legislatures working in London, Paris, Berlin and Rome enact. more businesslike, less unsound and eccentric legislation than is passed here in Washington, one reason for that excellence is because the work is done in big, grown-up

Washington is a village in its mental processes; a selfish and spoiled little town in its civic ideals and aspirations; no big governmental problem attracts its attention; the beginning and end of its interest in Congress is that half the cost of carrying on District affairs shall be met by expenditure of Federal taxes appropriated by Congress. The test of good citizenship here is that a man be ready to die, if need be, in defense of his privilege of paying but one-half of his just share for the support of public schools, police and fire departments and such benefits.

If this were the only handicap to Washington as a national capital, the following remarks would be without a raison d'etre. There are others. One-third of the population of the District is black, the other twothirds are civil service clerks and their families, not to mention the negligible number of Congressmen, Administration officials and

No one votes in the District: the polling place is unknown, the ballot-box is no more a thing of substance than is Pandora's. There are no variations of good and bad times to make the citizens sit up and take notice, to inquire as to the causes of such stimulating variety.

Mental Dope

At the end of each month Uncle Sam unstraps his wallet, be it thin or fat, and pays off in full twelve times a year, and the tradesmen have just as many customers each, with as much money in hard times as in flush. These conditions produce a mental atmosphere devoid of snap, of punch, of pep. If George Bernard Shaw were to live for a week in a certain corner of California which is below sea level he would write-if he could write at all-stark banalities. The physical atmosphere there is mental dope. You get

I pause right here to assert that I am not of those who hold the Congress in disesteem for lacking in intelligence and profound purpose to serve their fellow-citizens well. They are admirable in those and many other respects. They work in unfortunate environment; that's what I am coming to.

Many Are Truly Rural

Now, to resume. If we were all far-traveled men of varied worldly experience it would yet be unfortunate that we are more or less influenced by the placid, uninspiring, Sleepy Hollow mental atmosphere of the District. But, one repeats, we are not all of that kind. Some of us-a lot!-come from rural districts which we leave for the first time when we entrain for Washington; we bring rural anti-city prejudices with us; we are convinced that Wall street with its like in other big cities is a den of highwaymen; that only pickpockets, strumpets and rakes promenade world-famous streets of America's great cities; that those who make their money by big business are no better than the lost, and that bankers and brokers are worse than the lost.

That's no joke. There is nothing in the life or atmosphere of Washington to overturn these solidly built conclusions. They persist, and some wonderful legislative notions find expressions therefrom. If one of the qualifications for election to Congress, either Senafter majority in New Orleans, San Francisco, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia or New York, it's peses to peanuts we'd talk less and legislate better.

Scared to Death

Until you've heard serious expression given to it it is hard to believe that there are men in Congress who are afraid to go to New York. I suppose that a popular brand of New York letter carried by many tank station weekly papers must be responsible for this wonder. Senator Hughes when he was in the House had a pal from a far-Southern State who, after many misgivings, agreed to go with Hughes on a personally conducted trip to New York. Near train time Hughes called for his friend, and found him in his hotel room grunting and sweating over his suitcase. After some violent efforts he straightened up, holding a six-shooter as long as his arm, remarking, "I can't get it in the case nehow. I'll have to pack it," and he started to conceal the pistol in the ample tail pocket of his long frock coat.

"Say." remarked Hughes wearily, "if you carry that cannon into Manhattan the first cop we meet will spot it, take it away from you and slap you on the wrist."

"But, Billy," protested the Southerner, "do you think I'm going to trust myself in New York without taking a gun?"

Hughes was firm, but he had a hard time inducing his friend to go unarmed into, as it were, the jaws of death.

There was a member from Georgia, an able lawyer, a good parliamentarian, honest, sincere. On any subject not related to the wickedness of New York's Money Devils he debated brilliantly. If the House were going into committee of the whole on a bill which might summon the Money Devils to the floor. Speaker Clark would sometimes call that man, Roddenbury was his name, to the chair, literally for the sake of his health.

for he could not debate in the chair. Roddenbury could throw himself into an ecstasy of rage by repeating the names of certain Money Devils and "trusts." He did this one day, and I saw Doctor Wilson watch him for a time, then move over to a seat by his side. When Reddenbury sar down he was white, trembling, exhausted.

"That chap is killing himself," Doctor Wilson remarked. Reddenbury died a month later; "heart failure."

It's a Question of Travel

Of course, a general retort to what I've been saying would be that it is as desirable that city mambers should know the country as that country members should know the city. True. Fortunately they do. City people who can afford to travel much more than do country people who can afford to. So I shall not conceal from my readers longer the precise point I'm driving at. The mattenal capital should be one of the nation's great office. Any of these Fee mentioned





would do. Our Federal lawmakers should be benefited by the mental awakening which comes from contact with great multitudes of all sorts, from the variety of interests a blg city forces upon consideration. It would be hopeless to urge this if those whom their fellows sent to Congress were not, in all truth, mighty good material, easily able to shed their prejudices and false preconceptions if they were rubbed a bit the right I have my doubt if Lloyd George would have developed in Washington as he has in London. His Welsh prejudices would not have been unbound and dropped. There are many Lloyd Georges in Congress, no doubt, and just as soon as I lay my hand on my Aladdin's lamp I shall give it a rub and, presto! the magic carpet will have carried away the Capitol, White House, monument and-no. I'd leave the other buildings there. turn the District back to Maryland, and let that State, if it wanted to, move in its capi-

POSEIDON, THE EARTH-SHAKER

How Earthquakes Affect the Human Mind. From Mythology to Brotherhood.

"THE world do move." It is not terra I firms, after all. Earthquakes are but incidents of long, slow movements which through ages raise and lower the land, modifying the heights and the depths and giving the seas no resting place. But, in ignorance or in knowledge, the incidents make the stronger impression on the human mind,

They are more spectacular. They are more tragic. The earthquake which made Euboea an island in 425 B. C.; the earthquake which permanently raised the coast of Chile in 1822; the one which overthrew Lisbon and destroyed 50,000 people; the one which swallowed 100,000 of the inhabitants of Pekin; the one which set San Francisco afire, these are but incidents in geologic history-but how profoundly they have affected the mind of man!

The long series of selsmic disturbances which are chronicled in Japanese history has had an effect on the mental and moral character of the people. Several earthquakes are annually commemorated by special services at temples. After the shock of 1891, when nearly 10,000 lives were lost, indications of mental excitement among the wounded were shown by spinal and nervous diseases. Whether it be poetical fancy or superstition, it is said that under Japan lives a catfish which shakes the earth when it becomes restless. In other countries the creature is

a mole, a hog, or an elephant. The Lisbon earthquake of 1755 furnished the theme of many a sermon. Some of the English clergy held that Lisbon was destroyed because its inhabitants were Catholics. Many of the survivors, however, attributed the disaster to the fact that they had tolerated a few Protestant heretics in their midst. So, to prevent another visitation of wrath, they haptised many of these heretics by force. Other similar disasters, like the Charleston earthquake, have given rise to pulpit anathema against heresy and implety.

In ancient times governments recognized earthquakes as visitations of an angry deity and tried to insure themselves against the future by repealing stringent laws and taxes. A whole subterranean mythology grew up among ancient peoples. Biblical history takes note of it. The Decalogue refers to the evil geniuses which imagination and earthquakes created. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything * * * that is in the earth beneath." Pluto, Poseidon and Vulcan, of classical mythology, are deitles of similar origin.

Poseidon of the trident, god of the sea and water, disputed with other gods the possession of the land. One of his numerous appellations was Enosichthon, the "Earthshaker." He was worshiped not only by the sea-coast people but by the people of inland places who had suffered from earthquakes, which were thought to be his work. Seismic waves were also of his making. His wrath destroyed Helice in Achaes. It was Poseidon also who raised the isle of Delos above the

So in all ages, even down to the present. much mythology, and much superstition as well, have sprung from the yawning cracks and chasms torn in the rocks by earthquakes. But this is not the impression genscally made on the human mind today by such a geologic incident as that which has just devastated the hills of Abrural and destroyed many thousands of lives. The day of the angry god has gone by. We seek not to appears the wrath of Possidon. We make no graven images to the delties of the lower Our response is rather in terms of human kindness. Brotherhood is the interpretation of earthquakes. The world do

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE "CITY OF HOMES"

Philadelphia's Disgraceful Tenements and Worse Indifference-Facts That Every Citizen Should Know-Municipality and Workingman.

By C. H. LUDINGTON

President Octavia Hill Association

TEN years ago the idea that Philadelphia. 1 the "City of Homes," had no serious housing problem was prevalent. People thought only of the steadily growing areas of comfortable small houses that were spreading outward in all directions and complacently assumed that there were no slum conditions that menaced the health and moral well-being of the community. Those who had studied the matter, however, knew that while Philadelphia had no tenement-house problem such as New York has, it had for years been developing conditions that were strikingly similar to those of London, which has been considered one of the worst cities of Europe in this regard.

Year by year since then the situation existing in this city has been brought before the people and before the State and city governments, and while some progress toward improvement has been made, it has been relatively small, and the conditions existing today in large sections of the older part of the city are a disgrace to a municipality of the wealth and standing of Philadelphia.

No Immunity

More than a year ago the Legislature created a Division of Housing and Sanitation in the Department of Health and Charities of Philadelphia, empowered to supervise and control all housing and sanitary conditions within the city, and today we find the city Councils still stubbornly persisting in their refusal to provide the necessary funds for organizing this division. It is perhaps too much to expect an "organization"-controlled body like Councils to take willingly any step that would tend to make the exploitation of the tenement-house districts less profitable, but mere enlightened self-interest should impel every good citizen to demand action on this really moderate step toward improve-

One of the marked features of this city is that there is no clear separation of the business and better residence sections on the one hand from the so-called slums on the other. Filth-strewn, unhealthful alleys are found near the business streets or just back of handsome residences. The man or woman who rubs elbows with you in the surface cars may come directly from the alley house or tenement where exist disease-breeding conditions with which you would never knowingly venture into contact. These neglected districts foster immorality and disease the contagion of which permeates to the remotest sections.

It is, of course, in the older portions of the city that these more conspicuous and dangerous conditions prevail. In general, they may be summed up as follows

Hard Facts For a Polite World

First. An intricate network of alleys and ourts, covering the interiors of blocks and the crowding together of houses so closely that few of them have any open spaces at the front or sides, and in many the only windows are at the frent, opening on narrow, filthy courts with no possibility of thorough ventilation.

Second. No underground drainage in many of these courts, refuse and slops going into the gutters and frequently standing in foul. stagnant pools at the house doors. Stables are not uncommon in close proximity to dwellings, with unprotected manure pits sometimes next to the walls and under the windows of small houses.

Third. The old evil of utterly inadequate water supply has been in a large measure remedled by the enforcement of the recent act providing that every dwelling shall have one fixture or source of supply except where it is on a court or common front yard and has no rear or side yard, when one fixture may supply three houses. As regards toilet accommodations, the conditions are still very bad. Broken and defective plumbing is gen eral, and a large part of the tenants in these ouses are compelled to put up with closets and privy vaults in a condition of which the polite world would be unwilling to be told.

Where One Can't Be Decent

Fourth. There are some large tenements built before the tenement house not of 1895 which are bad in type, but the great majority of the houses legally classed as tonements are old "converted" dwelling houses. originally built for one family, but now cecupled by from two to six distinct households. Ten years ago the conditions in these houses were deplorable, but the law governing them has now been enforced for many of

The so-called "furnished-seem" houses

come mainly in the tenement class, and are particularly objectionable in that their occupants belong so largely to the lowest grades. They are generally dilapidated and dirty and the furniture of the scantiest, often little more than beds and bedding. which are filthy in the extreme.

There are also to be considered the cheap boarding houses and "rooming" houses that are occupied in great measure by young men and women who have come to the city from outside for employment. The most dangerous feature here is the insufficiency of tollet accommodations, which renders proper privacy impossible and often leads to immo-

Fifth. Overcrowding is general in both the tenements and "furnished-room" houses, as well as in the smaller dwellings where lodgers are taken. It is not uncommon to find an entire family with only one room for kitchen, dining room and bedroom. As many as seven persons of all ages and rexes may be found sleeping in one room, which serves as kitchen as well. Cleanliness, privacy or anything like home life are impossible. Contagious diseases spread with certain rapidity and physical and moral deterioration is inevitable. The taking in of lodgers is most common; for example, one couple sharing three rooms with 18 lodgers, or a family of three with 11 lodgers in a three-room apartment. Sixth. Other evils are insanitary, un-

He Hasn't the Price

drained cellars, yards piled with rubbish and

filth, animals of various kinds kept on the

same lots with dwellings and often actually

Another feature of the problem today in Philadelphia is the fact that the laboring man who can afford to pay less than \$15 per month rental has no alternative but to life in these older districts. The blocks on blocks, of dwellings that have been and are being built in all the newer sections are beyond his reach. These house are for the workingman who can pay more than \$15 per mosth in rent.

No one is providing new dwellings for the \$9-to-\$14-per-month tenant. There is not enough profit in it to attract the builder. The urgency of this condition is becoming each year clearer, and public-spirited citizens will doubtless be willing to provide sufficient CAPital to demonstrate the possibility of building houses to meet this need, in which de cent living standards are maintained and a moderate return secured on the investment Serious thought is being given to this matter today, and it is safe to predict that such undertakings will be begun in the near future. Philadelphia is behind other cities in this matter, as was pointed out in a recent article in this newspaper, but it is probably too much to expect that such private enterprises will ever fully meet the needs of the city.

Toronto's Way

If not, the municipality itself will in time have to take hold of the problem in a comprehensive way. As is being done in Toronto. today, the city should be prepared to furnish the capital or lend its credit toward the building of proper dwellings for the laboring classes. In no other way will the ultimate requirements of the situation be adequately

It will further in time have to face the necessity of cleaning out the worst of the slum districts. In the "Housing of the Works ing Classes," published in 1895, Edward Bow-"So firmly convinced are we maker says: of dangers attending this class of property that we unhesitatingly declare for the total demolition of all such existing premises and the replacing of them by houses of a better and more bealthy type." This is the city a work, and the necessity for it will uitimately be realized. It may seem Utopian today, ill the face of the present attitude of Councils toward voting the money for even a moderate measure of necessary supervision and control, but in time the example of mote progressive communities and the realisation of their own direct interest in the matter by

WHAT OF THE NIGHT

Master, what of the nich!?
Child night is not at many anywhere, fallen or to fall.
Save ill our star-stricken eyes.
Forth of our eyes it takes flight.
Look we but once nor before
Nor bening us, but stratget on the skint.
Night is not than any more.

the citizens will bring it about.